

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

September 26, 2013

Commissioner Michael Connor  
Bureau of Reclamation  
United States Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ms. Sally Ericsson  
Program Associate Director for Natural  
Resources  
The Office of Management and Budget  
725 17th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Commissioner Connor and Ms. Ericsson:

We write in support of the Eastern NM Water Utility Authority's (ENMWUA) request for reallocation of \$3M of the Bureau of Reclamation's FY2013 rural water funding and a higher prioritization in future budgets. We understand that there were Rural Water Projects funds returned to the Bureau that could be immediately spent by ENMWUA with already secured local funds to complete the project's already initiated intake structure, and to complete design of two sub-phases of the Interim Groundwater Pipeline (IGWP).

The ENMWUA has developed a phased strategy to construct the IGWP and forestall their member communities from running out of water. This portion of the overall project will create a core regional water system that would both interconnect their member communities and Cannon Air Force Base and give each member access to areas of the aquifer where water production has been identified as more productive. This interim project would then be linked to the project's long-term water supply upon completion of the full project, with each interim phase delivering additional water.

A reallocation of unspent federal FY13 funds would provide the ENMWUA with resources that they need to complete construction of the Intake Facility and finish design of two sub-phases of the IGWP. We respectfully request your careful consideration of the ENMWUA proposal for reallocation end of year funds, and thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,



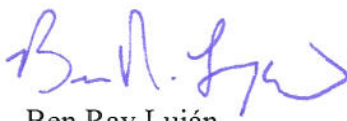
Tom Udall  
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Steve Pearce  
United States Representative



Ben Ray Luján  
United States Representative



Michelle Lujan Grisham  
United States Representative